



Council of the European Union  
General Secretariat

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## THINK TANK REVIEW

September 2014

Issue 16

Dear Readers,

Welcome to issue 16 of the Think Tank Review compiled by the EU Council Library\*. It references papers published in July and August 2014. As usual, we provide the link to the full text and a short abstract.

We have been considering how to alert our readers to new think tank publications on EU affairs more quickly than it can be done with a monthly compilation. For some time, the team has been launching short alerts using the hash tag [#EUCOLibrary](#). Search for it on Twitter, or follow our [accounts](#). We will also tweet from the Library about new interesting background to the EU public debate and topical issues in information management.

At the same time our searchable index of publications featured in the TTR is growing: some 550 records are now available in the [catalogue](#). Although it does not offer (yet) full-text search, the repository allows searches on the metadata and abstracts of papers. For example, a pre-defined search that has been popular with our readers recently is the one on [Ukraine](#) (also see the special focus section in [TTR 11](#)).

Think tank publication activity did not cease during the summer. This double issue of the TTR carries content on Brexit, separatist pressures, banking union, economic governance, energy and much more, including, predictably, Franco-German relations and, less predictably, Google searches in Finland (!). Energy security in relation to the Ukraine conflict is obviously a key concern. Also noteworthy is a series of analyses on security issues, from defence industry to cyber-security, published around the time of the NATO summit in Cardiff. The European Council's new [Strategic Guidelines](#) in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice received critical attention, as did the energy aspects of the June European Council. The recent elections and nominations to the top EU offices triggered a number of broad policy or strategy recommendations, and various reviews of possible institutional reforms.

Also noteworthy, this month, is a particularly rich selection of Regards croisés across Member State borders.

The current Review and past issues can be downloaded from our [Library blog](#). As always, feedback is welcome at [central.library@consilium.europa.eu](mailto:central.library@consilium.europa.eu).

The next Think Tank Review will be out in October 2014, with papers published in September. In parallel, our colleagues at BEPA announce for mid-October an issue of their [Monthly Brief](#) containing a survey of economic reforms in the EU 2008-2014.

For readers from outside the General Secretariat, the Central Library is in the Justus Lipsius building, at JL 02 GH, Rue de la Loi 175, 1048 Brussels. It is open to Council officials, staff of other EU institutions and Permanent Representations of Member States. Members of the public may use the library for research purposes.

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#### **Die Europäische Wirtschafts- und Währungsunion stärken - Drei Wege zu einer Vertragsrevision**

by Thierry Chopin

7 July 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

In a joint project with the Institut français des relations internationales, DGAP hosts this analysis by French researcher Thierry Chopin. He reviews Member States' and institutions' position on possible treaty changes to strengthen the EMU and EU legitimacy in general, and lists more quickly feasible options including for example a stable euro-group presidency and a euro area committee in the EP. [English](#) and [French](#) versions of this paper were published by the Fondation Robert Schuman.

NOTRE EUROPE - JACQUES DELORS INSTITUTE

#### **The Commission reform: between efficiency and legitimacy**

by Yves Bertoincini [@ybertoincini](#) and António Vitorino

7 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

On the eve of the designation of the Juncker Commission, this paper develops recommendations on the organisation of the Commission, arguing for a more political college with 6 vice-presidents and for some legal adjustments.

BRUEGEL

#### **The great transformation: memo to the incoming EU Presidents**

by André Sapir and Guntram B. Wolff [@GuntramWolff](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Bruegel addresses the new EU leadership directly with a set of policy memos, identifying three central challenges: (1) the feeble economic situation prevents job creation and hobbles attempts to reduce public and private debt; (2) the need to reform EU institutions and budget; (3) the need to prepare for treaty change to put monetary union on a more stable footing, to review the EU competences and to re-adjust the relationship between the euro area and the EU, and the United Kingdom in particular.

POLICY NETWORK

#### **Why institutions matter in the eurozone**

by Renaud Thillaye [@RThillaye](#), Ludek Kouba and Andreas Sachs

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper assesses the desirability and feasibility of two possible innovations in the eurozone: a mechanism of wage coordination, and contractual arrangements (or 'reform contracts') between the EU and member states. Beyond economic and political arguments, the paper invites to shift the focus of attention from conception to implementation.

### **A eurozone subcommittee in the European Parliament: high hopes, low results?**

by Stijn Verhelst [@stijn\\_verhelst](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The task of ensuring the democratic legitimacy of the euro has been placed high on the agenda. A eurozone subcommittee in the European Parliament is one of the rare concrete proposals to secure this, creating high hopes. Due to legal and political hurdles the idea might nonetheless have minimal results, which might result in suboptimal parliamentary scrutiny of the eurozone. This paper argues that if a eurozone subcommittee is to be both meaningful and politically feasible, it should combine substantial competences with innovative decision-making.

### CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

### **Twelve things everyone should know about the European Court of Justice**

by Hugo Brady [@hugobradly](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A view of the European Court of Justice by the British think tank, based on the assumption that the Court is "poorly understood by outsiders, despite its many controversial rulings", based on interviews with EU judges, European and national officials and other experts.

### FUNDACIÓN ALTERNATIVAS

### **¿Cómo son los lobbies en Europa?**

by Jorge San Miguel Lobeto

18 July 2014

Link to the article in [Spanish](#)

Fundación Alternativas looks critically at the Transparency Register, noting that regulation of interest representation at EU level is limited for the moment to a voluntary register and taking stock of the Commission's and Parliament's different stances on the making registration a requirement.

### EUROPEAN UNION CENTRE IN SINGAPORE

### **The European Union's democratic deficit and options for EU democracy in the 21st century**

by Dexter Lee

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

An attempt to evaluate the democratic development of the EU through process-oriented approach, based among others on Charles Tilly's study of the processes that shape the strength or weakness of democracy at national level.

### CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

### **Overthrowing secrecy: The *Spitzenkandidaten* experiment and a new chance for a European party system**

by Roberto Baldoli [@rb3611](#), Stefan Gänzle and Michael Shackleton

4 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A short commentary arguing that the designation of lead candidates by European political parties in the 2014 European elections was a coup d'état against the old process of appointing the European Commission President behind closed doors. The new procedure entails "a number of political, institutional and 'thus' constitutional ambiguities", but the authors argue that it has rendered that process more transparent, if not more democratic, and will almost certainly endure to the next European elections and beyond. As a result, they conclude that the new procedure is likely to trigger important changes in Europe's political parties and elections. To be read in conjunction with previous analyses of the impact of the 2014 elections, such as [these](#).

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

### **Explaining political leadership: Germany's role in shaping the fiscal compact**

by Magnus G. Schoeller

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper explores the origins and the impact of political leadership: why and how do political leaders emerge? And, once in charge, how do these leaders influence outcomes? What determines their success or failure? To answer these questions, the paper presents a theory of political leadership which takes into account both the structural and the behavioural aspects of the concept.

### ***EU perspectives***

*Many publications in the summer analysed the implication of Scotland's possible choice for independence. We include the following two papers, that, even though overtaken by events, illustrate the range of issues involved and their impact on broader EU debates.*

FONDATION ROBERT SCHUMAN

### **Scotland's probable choice to remain part of the UK will not necessarily mean the end of the road to autonomy**

by Corinne Deloy

25 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

### **Relocation, relocation, relocation: could the UK's nuclear force be moved after Scottish independence?**

by Hugh Chalmers [@HughMagroo](#) and Malcolm Chalmers [@MChalmers\\_RUSI](#)

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

### **Secession: Member States, aspiring states and the European Union**

by Pierre Schmitt

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper presents the international rules applicable to the issue of membership in international organizations in case of secession, with examples relating to the UN, the Council of Europe and the European Convention on Human Rights. The second part analyses the consequences of secession with regard to the membership of the EU.

**With friends like these: why Britain should leave the EU - and how**

by David Conway

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In one of the many recent papers on options for the UK within or outside the EU, the free-market think tank Civitas looks at other European countries that are not members of the EU, as well as countries outside Europe, and their ways to trade profitably with the EU. Other papers on 'Brexit' in previous Think Tank Reviews can be found [here](#). Also see in this issue Policy Network on "How Britain can make it in a fast-changing world".

**Banking Union**

BRUEGEL

**Asset-backed securities: the key to unlocking Europe's credit markets?**

by Carlo Altomonte [@Altomonte\\_C](#) and Patrizia Bussoli [@patriziabussol1](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper discusses how Asset-backed securities can help revamp the market for corporate loans, and how ABSs can function as a monetary policy instrument.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

**Potential for cooperation: Polish and Czech standpoints on the Banking Union**

by Tomas Profant and Patryk Toporowski

22 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Common features in the Czech and Polish banking systems translate into similar positions by the two Member States towards the Banking Union. Their main stance is to safeguard the specificity of the host countries and to maintain a strong position for national supervisory authorities. The authors provide reasons for both countries to insist on the independence of branches and subsidiaries in Poland or the Czech Republic from parent banks abroad.

## SECTION 2 - ECONOMICS

### *Member States and European economies*

ADAM SMITH INSTITUTE

#### **Incentive to invest? How education affects economic growth**

by Gabriel Heller Sahlgren [@gabrielsahlgren](#)

29 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Sahlgren shows the relationship between educational outcomes and economic growth and argues that expanding access to private education would dramatically improve long-run GDP growth.

CASE - CENTRUM ANALIZ SPOŁECZNO-EKONOMICZNYCH (CENTER FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

#### **Lessons learned for monetary policy from the recent crisis**

by Michael D. Bordo [@econmike](#)

28 July 2014

Link to the article in [English/Polish](#)

Michael Bordo discusses the lessons learned from the history of previous financial crises for monetary policy, focusing mainly on the recent experience of the US (and namely its Federal Reserve), where the current crisis began. He argues that the crisis of 2007-2008 was not as devastating as is commonly believed, and claims that the Fed's policy during the crisis, based on lessons learned from the Great Depression, not only "did not exactly fit the facts of the recent crisis", but may in fact have "exacerbated the crisis and may have led to serious problems which could contribute to the next (one)".

#### **Forecasting financial stress and the economic sensitivity in CEE countries**

by Maciej Krzak, Grzegorz Poniatowski and Katarzyna Wąsik

17 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper presents forecasts for the Financial Stress Index and the Economic Sensitivity Index for six countries in the region, namely the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. It is part of an endeavour to construct synthetic indices of financial stress and economic sensitivity for twelve Central and East European countries using the Principal Component Analysis. The analysis confirms that the global financial crisis had a sudden and significantly negative impact on all CEECs. A synthetic measurement that monitors both financial markets and the evolution of economic stability can offer a clear picture of the systems' vulnerabilities.

### *Economic governance*

SAFE - SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FINANCE IN EUROPE

#### **EU mapping: systematic overview on economic and financial legislation**

by Marcel Gellings, Kai Jungbluth and Katja Langenbacher

3 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This study commissioned by the EP for its own ECON committee, and completed in May 2014, provides a graphic overview on legislation in the area of economic and financial services. It lists legislation in force, proposals and other relevant provisions in fourteen policy areas: banking, securities markets and investment firms, market infrastructure, insurance and occupational pensions, payment services, consumer protection in financial services, the European System of Financial Supervision, European Monetary Union, euro bills and coins and statistics, competition, taxation, commerce and company law, accounting and auditing.

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

### **Circular economy: scaling up best practices worldwide**

by David Koczij

18 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A collection of short papers by experts and policy-makers advocating circular economy, i.e. a "closed-loop" way to decouple economic growth from resource consumption by encouraging re-using, re-manufacturing and recycling. Such an approach could bring important benefits of cost-savings, job creation, innovation, productivity and resource efficiency in both developed and developing countries. But translating the circular economy concept into practice is going to demand strong business leadership, smart regulation, international co-operation and the energetic spreading of best practices.

CEPII - CENTRE D'ÉTUDES PROSPECTIVES ET D'INFORMATIONS INTERNATIONALES

### **Risk shocks and divergence between the euro area and the US**

by Thomas Brand and Fabien Tripier

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Why have the euro area and the US diverged since 2011 while they were highly synchronized during the recession of 2008-2009? To explain this divergence, the authors provide a structural interpretation of these episodes through the estimation of a business cycle model with financial frictions for both economies. Results show that risk shocks, measured as the volatility of idiosyncratic uncertainty in the financial sector, have played a crucial role in the divergence with the absence of risk reversal in the Euro area. Risk shocks have stimulated US credit and investment growth since the trough of 2009 whereas they have been at the origin of the double-dip recession in the Euro area.

### **A new architecture for public investment in Europe**

by Natacha Valla, Thomas Brand and Sébastien Doisy

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and to the annex in [English](#)

This paper discusses the complementarity between private and public sector investment. Evidence suggests that in the medium term, public investment does not hinder, but fosters, the quantity and efficiency of private investment. The authors propose establishing, by treaty, a Eurosystem of Investment Banks (ESIB), around a pan-European financial capacity that would coordinate the actions of the national public investment banks of Euro area member states and add to their funding capacity. The ESIB would channel euro area excess savings towards investment in the right places throughout the continent. To do so in an economically sustainable and financially profitable way, funding would be conditional on firm commitments to growth-enhancing structural reforms and economic policies.

TRANSATLANTIC ACADEMY

### **Wither global economic cooperation?**

by Bartłomiej E. Nowak and Joachim Herz Fellow

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)



This paper by a joint project of GMFUS and several US and German foundations looks at how interdependent the world now is. However, in key areas of global economic governance, such as finance, world trade, and development aid, regionalization is the overwhelming trend. Non-Western regions and states are seen as attempting to bypass the institutions of global economic governance. They address economic problems through new channels, where the dominant position of the West is diffused.

EUROPEAN CREDIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE

### **Another contraction in European household credit markets**

by Sylvain Bouyon and Filippo Boeri [@filippo\\_boeri](#)

12 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The ECRI Statistical Package 2014 Lending to Households reveals that the total amount of outstanding household real debt at end-2013 contracted for the third consecutive year in both the EU member states (EU27) and the euro area (EA17). All in all, indicators point to less divergent growth patterns across member states in 2013, as the standard deviation of the sample in domestic currency recorded its lowest value in more than 15 years. Still, pronounced corrections continued in a few countries, especially in Slovenia, Portugal, Spain, Hungary and Latvia. Considering household debt-to-GDP ratios, long-term comparisons between the different groups of countries composing the EU27 show that no convergence was observed across these groups and across EU27 countries in the years preceding the financial crisis. However, partly as a result of the 2008-09 financial crisis and its long-lasting effects, strong convergence was registered across EU27 countries between 2007 and 2013.

BRUEGEL

### **Did the German court do Europe a favour?**

by Ashoka Mody

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Modi sees the ECB's Outright Monetary Transactions programme as a politically-pragmatic tool to diffuse the euro-area crisis. But it did not deal with the fundamental incompleteness of the European monetary union. As such, it blurred the boundary between monetary and fiscal policy. The fuzziness of this boundary helped in the short-term but pushed political and economic risks to the future. Unless a credible commitment to enforcing losses on private creditors is instituted, these conundrums will persist.

### **Europe between financial repression and regulatory capture**

by Éric Monnet [@MonnetEric](#), Stefano Pagliari [@SPagliari](#) and Shahin Vallée [@Shahinvallee](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The financial crisis modified drastically and rapidly the European financial system's political economy, with the emergence of two competing narratives. First, government agencies are frequently described as being at the mercy of the financial sector, routinely hijacking political, regulatory and supervisory processes, a trend often referred to as "capture". But alternatively, governments are portrayed as subverting markets and abusing the financial system to their benefit, mainly to secure better financing conditions and allocate credit to the economy on preferential terms, referred to as "financial repression". The authors take a critical look at this debate arguing that the relationship between governments and financial systems in Europe cannot be reduced to polar notions of "capture" and "repression", but that channels of pressure and influence between governments and their financial systems have frequently run both ways and fed from each other.

### **Improving the role of equity crowdfunding in Europe's capital markets**

by Karen E. Wilson [@BruegelKaren](#) and Marco Testoni

29 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Despite the hype, equity crowdfunding is still the smallest part of the crowdfunding market. Because of its legal framework, Europe has been at the forefront of the development of equity crowdfunding. The authors assess the potential role of equity crowdfunding in the overall seed and early-stage financing market and highlight the potential risks. Currently in Europe there is a patchwork of national legal frameworks related to equity crowdfunding and this should be addressed in a harmonised way.

COLLEGE OF EUROPE

### **Designing a genuine EMU: which "unions" for EU and eurozone?**

by Jacques Pelkmans

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper discusses first the fall-out of the crisis for EMU, and then assesses the fiscal and the banking union as accomplished so far, without going into technical details. The assessment is moderately positive, although there is ample scope for further improvement and a risk for short-term turbulence once the ECB has finished its tests and reviews.

### **Discretion and accountability: the ESMA judgment and the Meroni doctrine**

by Phedon Nicolaides and Nadir Preziosi

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

An analysis and interpretation of the discretionary powers of ESMA, grounded in principal-agent theory. It finds that the rather rigid position of the Court of Justice in relation to the Meroni doctrine is unsuitable to delegation of complex regulatory tasks. This is particularly evident in the case of financial markets. Finally, the judgment does not examine in any detail whether and how the principals - i.e. the EU and Member States - are best able to evaluate the quality of ESMA decisions and regulations and whether there are different but more effective accountability mechanisms.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

### **Inflation is dead, but not German angst: how the monetary policy of the ECB undermines the culture of stability**

by Sebastian Płóciennik [@SebPloc](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The recent expansionary course of the ECB confuses Germany, notes the author. Envisaging Polish support to Germany in this, he warns that getting the southern members of the eurozone out of recession is important, but the price could be damage to domestic savings, fading enthusiasm for reforms in the eurozone and more lax approaches to inflation in the future.

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

### **An investment agenda for Europe**

by Ferdinand Fichtner, Marcel Fratzscher [@MFratzscher](#) and Martin Gornig

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This Economic Bulletin shows that one of Europe's biggest economic weaknesses is a lack of private investment and that a European investment agenda is vital in order to generate the impetus required to push the European economy towards a sustainable recovery. European economic policy should focus not on higher public spending, but on increasing private investment as well as creating markets that function properly. The theme is further analysed in the other papers from the Institute.

## **Weak investment dampens Europe's growth**

by Guido Baldi, Ferdinand Fichtner, Claus Michelsen [@ClausMichelsen](#) and Malte Rieth

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In the course of the economic and financial crisis, investment activity, which was not very strong to begin with, in Europe and especially the eurozone caved in. In relation to gross domestic product, fixed capital formation declined by four percentage points since 2008. Already prior to the crisis, investment activity was rather weak in parts of the eurozone -- amongst others in Germany. On the other hand, especially in southern European economies, investment -- mostly in the home construction sector -- was markedly high before the crisis. These investments were however mainly financed by capital inflows from abroad.

## **Weak Investment in the EU: a long-term cross-sectoral phenomenon**

by Martin Gornig and Alexander Schiersch

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Based on capital stock, in total, over six trillion euros less was invested in the EU between 1999 and 2007 than in the non-European OECD countries, including the US, Canada, and Japan. In the euro area, investment was more than 7.5 trillion euros less than in non-European OECD countries. In virtually all EU member states, gross fixed assets (capital stock) are older than the OECD average and also demonstrate slower growth.

## **Growth**

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

## **Flexibility clauses in the Stability and Growth Pact: no need for revision**

by Stefano Micossi and Fabrizia Peirce

24 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This brief offers a review of the Stability and Growth Pact and looks at whether the margins of flexibility within existing rules are sufficient in the current climate of low growth, or whether there is a need to broaden them.

WIENER INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE WIRTSCHAFTSVERGLEICHE (THE VIENNA INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC STUDIES)

## **Economic convergence and structural change: the role of transition and EU accession**

by Rumen Dobrinsky and Peter Havlik

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper analyses the speed and patterns of economic convergence in the new EU Member States of Central and Eastern Europe during transition and the first years of EU membership. After a brief discussion of measurement and data issues, the paper provides stylised facts on growth and convergence in Europe, and explores various convergence measures proposed in the growth literature.

CONSEIL D'ANALYSE ÉCONOMIQUE (FRENCH COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS)

## **Tax harmonization in Europe: moving forward**

by Agnès Bénassy-Quéré, Alain Trannoy and Guntram Wolff [@GuntramWolff](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [French](#)

This Note argues that, although the taxation of the most mobile bases has become lighter since the mid 1990s, the responsibility of tax competition in Europe is unclear, except for corporate taxation. Consequently, the authors focus on the taxation of firms and mainly on the corporate income tax (CIT), where many distortions and inefficiencies arise from the combination of rate and base competition. There is room for tax harmonization/cooperation that would reduce distortions such as high compliance costs, tax planning and funding distortions as they are impediments to a smooth functioning of the single market. The authors recommend reviving the project of a Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base (CCCTB) or some part of it, through the enhanced cooperation procedure or an initiative of willing countries. Secondly, they suggest that all taxes on systemic banks covered by the SSM should be transferred to the central level and merged into a single Financial Activity Tax.

## SECTION 3 - EU MEMBER STATES

### *100 years after the 1st World War*

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES / DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR AUSWÄRTIGE POLITIK (GERMAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS)

#### **Asymmetrie der Erinnerungskulturen - Der Erste Weltkrieg in Frankreich und Deutschland**

by Elise Julien

30 July 2014

Link to the article in [German](#) and in [French](#)

A joint IFRI-DGAP project taking stock of the different dynamics of commemoration of the Great War in the two countries, tracing the difference to the underlying historical experiences of the war and its aftermath.

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG / INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY "SOCIETAS CIVILIS" SKOPJE

#### **Models of secure and stable integration: a hundred years after the First World War**

by KAS Office Macedonia

10 July 2014

Link to the article in [English and Macedonian](#)

Issue 46 of the joint journal by the Skopje Institute for Democracy and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung carries articles (in Macedonian with English abstracts) on "Models of Secure and Stable Integration: A Hundred Years after the First World War", with lessons for the European integration process today.

### *Baltic Sea region*

BALTIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM

#### **State of the Region Report 2014**

by Christian Ketels and Timo Summa

2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A report issued with a view to the 16th Baltic Development Forum Summit which took place in June in Turku. It puts the discussion of the economic situation in the broader context of international relations, especially with reference to Russia.

### *Bulgaria*

EUROPEAN POLICIES INITIATIVE

These EuPI policy briefs analyse public attitudes in Bulgaria in regard to important policy and political issues. Covered are Schengen and the Euro, showing that in 2014 the majority of Bulgarians continue to support accession to Schengen with 57,2%, with 12,2% against and a decline of 10% in comparison to 2011. A growing number of Bulgarians oppose changing the national currency for the euro, with a drop in support of 20% compared to 2011, but continue to favour the currency board that pegs the lev to the euro with nearly 47%. Bulgarian public opinion on EU membership and South Stream are covered in the other two papers.

## **What about the pivotal EU projects: Schengen and eurozone membership and Bulgaria's public opinion**

by Marin Lessenski [@marinlessenski](#)

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

## **South Stream and EU sanctions against Russia: Bulgaria's public opinion**

by Marin Lessenski

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

## **EU membership and the public opinion in Bulgaria in 2014**

by Marin Lessenski

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

## **Croatia**

TRANS EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES ASSOCIATION

## **Croatia's first year of EU membership: have the expectations been fulfilled?**

by Visnja Samardzija

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In contrast to the EU 2004/2007 enlargements, Croatia acceded to the EU as a single country and the accession did not have a major impact on the EU institutions or policies. One year of the EU membership is too short period for a thorough evaluation of its impact, notes the author. Still this initial experience could be considered as a lessons learned for the political elites, citizens and the countries of the Western Balkan region who might be next in line for EU accession. These are the main issues covered by this paper.

EKONOMSKI INSTITUT, ZAGREB (INSTITUTE OF ECONOMICS, ZAGREB)

## **Changes in public and private sector pay structures in two emerging market economies during the crisis**

by Jelena Nikolic, Ivica Rubil and Iva Tomić

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper estimates public-private sector wage differentials in two emerging market economies – Croatia and Serbia – between 2008 and 2011 in order to understand changes in the gap resulting from austerity measures undertaken by each sector. It shows that the private sector in both countries adjusted wages relative to the public sector more at the bottom than at the top of the wage distribution, which led to an increase in the relative public sector wage compression, especially in Croatia.

## **Estonia**

INSTITUT FÜR WELTWIRTSCHAFT KIEL (KIEL INSTITUTE FOR THE WORLD ECONOMY)

## **Deficiencies in the development of an Estonian welfare state**

by Klaus Schrader, Claus Friedrich Laaser and Janno Reiljan

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Estonia is widely regarded as an example for the successful transformation of a socialist economic system to a functioning market economy. However the authors note that Estonia has hardly succeeded in catching-up economically with the richer countries of the euro area. This paper investigates the causes of the sluggish catching-up process, and which opportunities Estonian economic policy has to close the wealth gap.

## **Finland**

ELINKEINOELÄMÄN TUTKIMUSLAITOS (RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY)

### **Big data: Google searches predict unemployment in Finland**

by Joonas Tuhkuri [@WeLoveEconomics](#)

14 August 2014

Link to the article in [Finnish](#)

This report examines whether Google search queries can be used to predict the present and the near future unemployment rate in Finland. Predictions using search terms perform 39 % better over the benchmark for near future unemployment 3 months ahead. Google search queries also tend to improve the prediction accuracy around turning points. The results suggest that Google searches contain useful information of the present and the near future unemployment rate in Finland.

## **France**

INSTITUT MONTAIGNE

### **Pour une véritable politique publique du renseignement**

by Sébastien-Yves Laurent

July 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

A study taking stock of evolutions in the area of intelligence in France since the 2008 White paper on Defence and suggesting options for more efficient and legitimate intelligence work.

FONDATION POUR L'INNOVATION POLITIQUE

### **L'urbanisation du monde. Une chance pour la France**

by Laurence Daziano [@LaurenceDaziano](#)

11 July 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

An analysis of the increasing role of urban areas in the world and a plea to mobilise French industry to meet their demands with products and services in the areas of transport, energy, water supply, waste treatment.

## **Germany**

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

### **La politique climatique et énergétique du gouvernement fédéral allemand. Contribution au dialogue franco-allemand**

by Camilla Bausch, Matthias Duwe [@Matthias\\_Duwe](#) and Benjamin Görlach

July 2014

Link to the article in [French](#) and in [German](#)

An analysis of the international aspects of German energy policy. It moves from the domestic political landscape to assess the government's ability to take coherent stances in international fora such as the G7 and the COP21, and suggests that German policies could fit in a more ambitious EU framework for climate and energy, supported by Franco-German cooperation.

## **Greece**

### LSE IDEAS

#### **Greece and the energy geopolitics of the Eastern Mediterranean**

by Theodoros Tsakiris

June 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Energy cooperation that would alleviate EU gas dependence on Russian imports and (prospectively) Turkish transit could constitute such a core interest not only for Israel, Cyprus and Greece but for several leading EU member states with important interests in the Eastern Mediterranean, including Italy and more importantly France and Britain. Energy cooperation, illustrated by the liquefaction of Israeli gas in Cyprus and the more long-term construction of gas and electricity lines to Greece, can constitute this missing lynchpin and turn a contingent alignment into a more enduring alliance.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΊΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ (HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY)

#### **How is the sovereign debt crisis affecting Greece's relations with the Balkan countries and Greece's standing in the region?**

by Ritsa Panagiotou and Anastasios I. Valvis

27 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report presents the findings of a preliminary analysis of the impact that the current debt crisis has on Greece's politico-diplomatic and economic relations with its neighbours. It concludes with the presentation of the findings of an online survey which was addressed to policy makers across the region, intending to collect data about perceptions of Greece's standing in the Balkans before and during the crisis. The second part of the report explores the developments in the economic relations between Greece and the other Balkan states, focusing especially on trends in trade and in foreign direct investments.

### CENTER FOR POLICY STUDIES

#### **Early school leaving in the context of policy-making in Hungary**

by Julia Szalai and Agnes Kende

2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This working paper derives from the research project "Reducing Early School Leave in the EU" (RESL.eu) that engages in exploring the causes and the perpetuating mechanisms behind the high and sometimes increasing level of early school leaving in nine member states of the EU.



## Poland

INSTYTUT SOBIESKIEGO (SOBIESKI INSTITUTE)

### **Budowanie zdolności obronnych państwa i postaw proobronnościowych**

by Paweł Soloch and Łukasz Dryblak

1 July 2014

Link to the article in [Polish](#)

At a time when security issues feature prominently in the Polish public debate, Instytut Sobieski reviews the stances of the main political actors on defence issues.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

### **Polish and Norwegian governance: closing the gaps**

by Jakub M. Godzimirski [@jmgnuji](#) and Krzysztof Kasianiuk (ed.); Kinga Dudzińska [@KingaDudzinska2](#), Grzegorz Gałczyński, Tomasz Paszewski and Dominik Smyrgała [@DoSmyr](#) (auth.)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A Polish think tank looking at the gap in performance on Worldwide Governance Indicator between Norway and Poland, identifying areas for Poland to "improve its governance by learning also from Norwegian governance", while being aware of structural differences between the two countries, mainly determined by Poland's EU membership.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS) / NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS / INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL STUDIES OF THE POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

### **Linking national and European governance: lessons for Poland and Norway**

by Lidia Puka [@lidiapuka](#), Roderick Parkes, Jakub Godzimirski, Agata Gostyńska, Pernille Rieker and Marta Stormowska

11 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A joint venture by the Polish Institute of International Affairs, the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, and the Institute of Political Studies, this paper provides a more general review of governance issues from the Polish and Norwegian cases.

## Spain

FUNDACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS DE ECONOMÍA APLICADA

### **Can fixed-term contracts put low skilled youth on a better career path? Evidence from Spain**

by José I. García Pérez, Ioana Marinescu and Judit Vall Castello

18 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Using Spanish social security data, the article compares the careers of high-school dropouts who entered the labour market just before and just after a large liberalization in the use of fixed-term contracts in 1984. It concludes that widespread fixed-term contracts have created jobs but harmed the careers of low-skilled workers.

## **The role of global value chains during the crisis: evidence from Spanish and European firms**

by Aranzazu Crespo and Marcel Jansen  
18 August 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper analyses the role that global value chains (GVCs) have played during the sovereign debt crisis in Europe, and the key policy challenges that Spain faces. To do so, it computes the impact on Spanish gross exports and domestic value added of a 10% increase in final demand in selected areas of the world. Findings suggest that GVCs act as stabilizers in times of crisis.

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

## **Spain turns the corner, but the legacy from the crisis persists**

by William Chislett [@WilliamChislet3](#)  
5 August 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

The programme of reforms and austerity measures has set Spain on a path of accelerating growth, but the legacy from the crisis is such that unemployment will remain very high for several years yet. The budget deficit is gradually coming down, though not public debt in GDP terms; exports continue to grow, but less so than in the last couple of years; the banking system is more solvent; foreign direct investment in Spain is rising; net migration is outward and not inward and the political map is changing.

## ***United Kingdom***

POLICY NETWORK

## **Owning the future - How Britain can make it in a fast-changing world**

by Chuka Umunna [@ChukaUmunna](#)  
17 August 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

The report sees huge opportunities for Britain in a world where the global middle class is expected to treble to five billion people in the next two decades. Contributions focus on the changing global context – how Britain should prepare for success with the BRIC and MINT economies; the challenge of inclusive growth; the innovation imperative; how government can work with business to generate more balanced and sustainable growth. Also of interest on the same topic the August 2014 issue the [National Institute Economic Review](#) (subscription required) with articles on the "Prospects for the UK economy" and on "The economics of migration".

RESPUBLICA

## **Creating local energy economies: lessons from Germany**

by Caroline Julian [@CarolineLJulian](#)  
July 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

This essay, through comparison with the German model, argues that the UK can deliver on greater transparency, lower household bills and genuine competition if communities, local authorities, housing associations and small businesses can enter into the energy supply market and sell their energy locally. It calls on the government to set up a 'Help to Supply' scheme, which would "open the floodgates to a spectrum of new suppliers."

INSTITUTE FOR FISCAL STUDIES

### **Living standards, poverty and inequality in the UK: 2014**

by Chris Belfield, Jonathan Cribb, Andrew Hood and Robert Joyce  
July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Each year, the government produces statistics about the distribution of income in the UK, dubbed Households Below Average Incomes, or HBAI. This report is the thirteenth in an annual series published by the Institute for Fiscal Studies that analyses these statistics and digs deeper to explore the driving forces behind key trends in living standards, inequality and poverty. Also see the next paper on redistributive effects in the UK pension system.

### **From Me to You? How the UK State Pension System Redistributes**

by Rowena Crawford, Soumaya Keynes [@soumayakeynes](#) and Gemma Tetlow  
6 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The redistributive objectives of the UK state pension system have often been somewhat ambiguous, and have changed over time as different governments have come and gone. This paper uses data on households' histories of employment, earnings and contributions to the National Insurance (NI) system to examine the degree of intra-generational redistribution achieved by the UK state pension system for the cohort born in the 1930s.

### ***Visegrad group***

CENTRAL EUROPEAN POLICY INSTITUTE

### **Digital Visegrad: vision or reality? - Recommendations for the Slovak Presidency of the Visegrad Group**

by Dániel Bartha [@bartha\\_daniel](#)  
16 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In the Visegrad countries, the year-on-year growth of the Internet economy is at least four times bigger than the overall economic growth levels, yet the region has done little to articulate and represent its own interests in the development and implementation of the Digital Agenda of the EU, according to the author. This report offers recommendations for the Slovak presidency of the Visegrad group based on opinions and ideas presented at a workshop organized by CEPI this summer.

## SECTION 4 - EU POLICIES

### *Trade*

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

#### **Trade policy issues in the wider Europe – that led to war and not yet to peace**

by Michael Emerson [@Michael12540](#)

16 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper looks at trade policy of the EU and Europe. Among the topics discussed are issues arising from the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreements between the EU and Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, as well as actual or prospective issues relating to the customs union of Belarus, Russia and Kazakhstan, and the Eurasian Economic Union.

### *Aid and development policy*

TRANSATLANTIC ACADEMY

#### **(Re)emerging aid donors in the reshaping world order: how to calibrate U.S. and European foreign assistance to secure transatlantic interests**

by Patrick Quirk

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Focusing on bilateral development aid, this paper first offers a brief overview of US/European aid. The second section discusses assistance provided by China, India, Turkey, Brazil, and Saudi Arabia. It looks at opportunities and challenges presented by these countries' involvement and areas of convergence and divergence with the West. Based on this analysis, the final section presents policy recommendations for the transatlantic community to recalibrate its aid strategies.

### *Justice and home affairs*

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

#### **The European Council's guidelines for the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice 2020: subverting the 'Lisbonisation' of justice and home affairs?**

by Sergio Carrera and Elspeth Guild

14 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In June the European Council adopted the new "Strategic Guidelines for Legislative and Operational Planning for the coming years within the EU's Area of Freedom, Security and Justice (AFSJ)". These guidelines reveal a pre-Lisbon Treaty mind-set among the EU member states and the Justice and Home Affairs Council, according to this paper. The authors argue that the results are mainly driven by the interests and agendas of national Ministries of Interior and Justice and are only "strategic" insofar as they aim, first, to re-inject 'intergovernmentalism' into the new EU institutional setting of the AFSJ and second, to side-line the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and rule of law in the AFSJ.

## **Reflections on quasi-loss of nationality in comparative, international and European perspective**

by Gerard-René de Groot and Patrick Wautelet

1 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Contrary to situations of loss of nationality, where something is taken away that had existed, quasi-loss involves situations in which nationality was never acquired. This paper seeks to examine whether a person should under certain circumstances be protected against quasi-loss of nationality. In order to do so, the paper first maps out situations of quasi-loss in EU Member States, describing typical cases in which a person never acquired the nationality of the country, despite at some time being considered a national.

WISSENSCHAFTSZENTRUM BERLIN FÜR SOZIALFORSCHUNG (SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER BERLIN)

## **Europe's Area of Freedom, Security and Justice through the prism of constitutionalism: why the EU needs a grammar of justice to improve its legitimacy**

by Ester Herlin-Karnell

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper asks what justice can add to the debate on EU constitutionalism in the specific area of freedom, security and justice. The author argues that, despite the complicated relationship between the notions of justice and legitimacy, they are closely linked in an EU context and thereby relevant to the bigger question of how the EU could, and should, become a just system. The key to understanding this synergetic relationship is to view justice as a European process, the author argues.

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE INTEGRATIONSFORSCHUNG/CENTER FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION STUDIES

## **Die proto-konstitutionelle Etablierung der europäischen Innenpolitik**

by Ludger Kühnhardt

26 August 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

ZEI Director Ludger Kühnhardt recalls the leading ideas of federalism as territorial equivalent for political pluralism. Celebrating the 80th anniversary of Bonn historian and political scientist Hans-Peter Schwarz, he reflects on the emerging EU domestic policies.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

## **With liberty to monitor all: how large-scale US surveillance is harming journalism, law, and American democracy**

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report documents how national security journalists and lawyers are adopting elaborate steps or otherwise modifying their practices to keep communications, sources, and other confidential information secure in light of revelations of unprecedented US government surveillance of electronic communications and transactions.

CENTER FOR POLICY STUDIES

## **Human trafficking and online networks**

by Jonathan Mendel and Kiril Sharapov

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This briefing provides an overview of human trafficking and online networks as an emerging area of policy concern at the European level, and presents results from two empirical investigations, which explore what is currently known about the use of online networks to facilitate trafficking in human beings.

THE FOREIGN POLICY CENTRE

### **Britons have already said no to citizens travelling abroad to fight, no matter what the cause**

by Thomas J. Scotto, Jason Reifler @[JasonReifler](#), Paul Whiteley and Harold Clarke  
August 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

In this article, four senior UK and US academics interpret data gathered in a May 2014 survey on British foreign policy attitudes. The researchers asked UK respondents how the British Government should deal with UK nationals travelling abroad to fight in Syria, in Ukraine, and in Nigeria. They found that large portions of respondents in all three situations favour stripping such individuals of UK citizenship, and less than 20% of those surveyed believe the Government should allow its citizens to fight in any of these emerging conflicts.

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

### **Civil defense groups: developing accountability**

by Bruce "Ossie" Oswald  
August 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

Between 1981 and 2007, governments in eighty-eight countries established or supported more than three hundred armed militias to provide security to local communities. Such militias often directly engage in armed conflict and law-and-order activities. Thus, the international community should develop a legal instrument that specifies the rules and principles that apply to states and civil defence groups.

### ***Immigration, frontiers and asylum policies***

CENTRUL ROMÂN DE POLITICI EUROPENE (ROMANIAN CENTER FOR EUROPEAN POLICIES)

### **The anti-migration discourse with regard to Romanian and Bulgarian citizens in France and Great Britain: between blame culture, negative stereotypes and prejudice**

by Andreea-Doina Călbează  
June 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper examines anti-migration public discourse with regard to Romanian and Bulgarian workers, by analysing articles published in the media from the UK and France, two of the countries where the subject was the most prominent during the period end of 2013 and beginning of 2014.

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

### **Moving up or standing still? Access to middle-skilled work for newly arrived migrants in the European Union**

by Meghan Benton @[meghan\\_benton](#), Susan Fratzke @[ekztaf](#) and Madeleine Sumption @[M\\_Sumption](#)  
July 2014  
Link to the article in [English](#)

This report caps a series of six country case studies evaluating the employment outcomes for foreign-born workers in the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and the UK. The study examines how easy it is for newcomers in the EU to establish themselves in destination-country labour markets in the first ten years after arrival, and how well they are able to move out of unskilled work and into middle-skilled jobs.

## **Advancing outcomes for all minorities: experiences of mainstreaming immigrant integration policy in the United Kingdom**

by Sundas Ali and Ben Gidley

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report explores the United Kingdom's unique experience with immigrant integration, which is strongly influenced by its colonial ties. Following World War II, the United Kingdom received a wave of migrants from its former colonies, many of whom were already British citizens, spoke English, and maintained strong ties to what they consider their mother country. As a result, native-born citizens have been reluctant to think of migrants as such, preferring instead to consider them minorities. Government programs and civil-society groups engage migrants, particularly migrant and minority youth, as part of communities rather than as discrete entities.

## **Mainstreaming immigrant integration policy in France: education, employment, and social cohesion initiatives**

by Angéline Escafré-Dublet

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

France has primarily focused on integration initiatives that target youth in three key areas: education, employment, and social cohesion. A recent reorganization of the institutions responsible for implementing integration policy has effectively mainstreamed those programs. In addition, a new area-based approach to solving problems of inequality has taken precedence over initiatives that tackle issues specific to immigrant youth, including discrimination. This approach is also limited in its ability to reach immigrant groups that are more widely dispersed geographically. As the government of President Francois Hollande considers further institutional changes to integration policy, including the delegation of responsibilities from the Interior Ministry to various relevant bodies, the concept of "mainstreaming" is likely to affect governance structures and the public discourse surrounding immigrant integration.

## **Coordinating immigrant integration in Germany: mainstreaming at the federal and local levels**

by Petra Bendel

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report explores the history and recent trends of integration policy in Germany, focusing on the past 15 years, when immigrant integration became an important issue. Aside from matters of nationality, freedom of movement, and passports, which are the exclusive domain of the federal government, and matters of education, which are up to the Länder (state-level governments) to decide, integration has consisted of a tangled web of overlapping and unclear legislative jurisdiction. Integration policy, which cuts across areas such as education, labour, and urban development, also suffers from a lack of horizontal coordination across various governmental departments and across states.

STIFTUNG WISSENSCHAFT UND POLITIK (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS)

## **Entwicklungspolitische Perspektiven temporärer und zirkulärer Migration**

by Steffen Angenendt

August 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

Temporary and repeated migration can make important contributions to countries of origin as well as host countries. However, many of the existing programs have weaknesses, notes SWP. They are often so short-term that the migrants cannot reach their savings goals. Sometimes qualifications are not recognized. Many migrants face weak job protection and cannot enforce wage claims. Moreover, there are many international examples of private employment agencies that are expensive, untrustworthy, or even criminal.

**The second phase of the Common European Asylum System: a step forward in the protection of asylum seekers?**

by Federica Toscano

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The aim of this paper is to analyse the impact of the second phase of the Common European Asylum System (CEAS) in the protection of rights of Asylum Seekers in the EU. The establishment of a CEAS has been always a part of the development of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. Its implementation was planned in two phases: the first one focused on the harmonisation of internal legislation; the second on improving the effectiveness of the granted protection.

CIVITAS - INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF CIVIL SOCIETY

**Large-scale immigration: its economic and demographic consequences for the UK**

by Robert Rowthorn

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

While GDP as a whole will grow with increased immigration, GDP per capita will be only marginally affected by the enormous population growth forecast for the coming century, according to the author. He cites the Office for National Statistics' high migration scenario, which sees growth in the UK population of 20 million over the next 50 years and 29 million over the next 75 years.

***Agriculture***

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

**Sustainable intensification of European agriculture**

by Allan Buckwell (dir.)

25 July 2014

Link to the report in [English](#) and to the executive summary in [English](#)

This report examines the concept of sustainable intensification of agriculture in the context of the EU, which already has highly intensive agriculture. It concludes that in the EU the emphasis has to be on the word sustainable. There is considerable scope both to improve productivity and environmental performance, the authors say. Achieving this requires both collective actions through more appropriate policy, as well as actions on the part of individual land managers and agribusiness. Motivating private action requires better information and benchmarking of individual farm environmental performance.

***Internal market***

BERTELSMANN STIFTUNG

**20 years of the European single market: growth effects of EU integration**

by Thieß Petersen, Michael Böhmer and Johannes Weisser

July 2014

Link to the study in [German](#) and to the policy brief in [English](#)



Since 1992, increasing European integration within the EU single market has had a positive impact on economic growth in nearly all EU countries, especially Germany and Denmark, according to a study conducted by Prognos AG for the Bertelsmann Stiftung. If the values from only 1992 and 2012 are compared, every country except for Greece has been able to achieve a higher per capita income due to the European integration. Generally, the deeper the integration, the more economic benefits were visible.

BRUEGEL

### **Antitrust risk in EU manufacturing: a sector-level ranking**

by Mario Mariniello [@BruegelMario](#) and Marco Antonielli [@AntonielliM](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The object of this paper is twofold: to provide a broad descriptive analysis of the risk of collusive behaviour throughout Europe in the manufacturing sector; and to identify those manufacturing sectors in which the European Commission has been more active in the past in its capacity as the antitrust authority.

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

### **Modification of the conditions of competition for goods and services: has "treatment no less favourable" lost its meaning?**

by Bregt Natens and Dylan Geraets

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The less favourable treatment (LFT) condition is a cornerstone of international trade law and is found in national treatment obligations that apply to both trade in goods and trade in services. This paper analyses the GATT, TBT and GATS case law on modification of the conditions of competition, culminating in the Appellate Body report in EC – Seal Products, with the objective of identifying a common standard in the interpretation of LFT.

## **Energy**

DEUTSCHES INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSFORSCHUNG (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

### **European energy sector: large investments required for sustainability and supply security**

by Christian von Hirschhausen, Franziska Holz, Clemens Gerbaulet and Casimir Lorenz

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

For the EU to keep on track with its energy and climate targets, large investments are required in electricity generation, infrastructure and energy efficiency, this paper says. The electricity sector takes the centre stage. This article delivers an overview of several estimates of the investment requirement in the European energy sector and estimates required investment expenditures until 2030. To ensure the financing of these investment expenditures, further adaptation of the legal framework in the EU member states is necessary. More importantly, the regulatory framework of cross-border infrastructure projects needs to be improved.

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

### **Gazprom in Europe: a business doomed to fail?**

by Aurélie Bros

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The exacerbation of tensions between the EU and Gazprom has led to black-and-white analyses. This makes it difficult to get to grips with Gazprom activities in the European energy market, while several crucial questions are never – or inadequately – raised, according to this paper. Although the constitution of the single EU energy market is still underway and liberalization has not been fully achieved, it is worth taking a closer look at Gazprom's activities in Europe.

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

### **US policies toward liquefied natural gas and oil exports: an update**

by Cathleen Cimino and Gary Clyde Hufbauer

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Free exports of liquefied natural gas, crude oil, and other energy products are an essential complement of US international economic policy, which has long advocated free trade in raw materials, unconstrained by export barriers or restrictions, this paper states. The White House should prod the Department of Energy, the Department of Commerce, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and other agencies to speed up their approvals of such exports. Short of lifting full restrictions on crude oil exports, the Department of Commerce should build on recent exemptions on export prohibitions with the understanding that sales to Europe are consistent with the US national interest.

INSTITUT MONTAIGNE

### **Gaz de schiste : comment avancer**

by Jean-Pierre Clamadieu (pres.)

July 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

A report on the shale gas debate in France, with proposals aimed at allowing progress in a transparent, controlled and reversible way.

ЦЕНТЪР ЗА ИЗСЛЕДВАНЕ НА ДЕМОКРАЦИЯТА (CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF DEMOCRACY)

### **Energy sector governance and energy (in)security in Bulgaria**

by Ilian Vassilev, Traicho Traikov, Denitsa Mancheva and Zoë Holliday

25 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The author identifies governance deficiencies in the Bulgarian energy policy regarding the strategic, institutional, and legal framework of the sector. The report focuses on developments that have disadvantaged Bulgarian taxpayers and consumers, jeopardized financial stability at state-owned energy companies, and reduced energy security of the country. Implementation of the country's energy policy should be reconsidered, the paper says, and should be based on EU priorities and on sound cost-benefit analyses with regard to Bulgaria's energy security.

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **The EU regime on biofuels in transport: still in search of sustainability**

by Tania Zgajewski

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In 2009 the EU decided to oblige each Member State to ensure that by 2020 the share of energy coming from renewable sources in the transport sector reached at least 10%. Biofuels are considered the main instrument to reach that percentage. The adoption of first-generation biofuels, which are made from food stocks, has been exclusively for the purpose of reaching this goal, and has ignored negative effects in areas such as socio-economic, legal, and environmental issues. Moves from the EU to deal with these challenges have been implemented, however the sustainability criteria that were the result have a huge flaw, this paper says.

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

### **European energy security in light of the Ukraine crisis**

by Christian Huebner

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Ukraine crisis is intensifying the long-standing debate about the security of Europe's energy supplies. On a geopolitical level, the EU's energy interests to the east, south, and southeast are gaining salience. The idea of a transatlantic gas supply corridor has recently been proposed - it remains on the drawing board because of costly infrastructure requirements and stiff competition for energy from Asia. Within the EU, the Ukraine crisis is providing further impetus for the shift of political priorities away from climate concerns and towards policies focused on security and competition.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION SERVICE, EUROPE

### **European energy security in light of the Ukraine crisis**

by Jared Brow

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Escalation of the crisis in Ukraine has directly threatened energy security in Europe and is forcing policy makers to evaluate the lack of diversification among European energy sources. The conflict comes at a time when the EU is pursuing renewable resources and strengthening its commitments towards decarbonisation and increasing energy efficiency. Because there are no current prospects of resolution, and considering unpredictable and belligerent Russian behaviour, the author calls on Europe to collectively define its environmental commitment and energy relationship with Russia.

DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR AUSWÄRTIGE POLITIK (GERMAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS)

### **Die Ukraine-Krise und die Energiesicherheit Europas - Kann Iran russische Gaslieferungen ergänzen?**

by Behrooz Abdolvand and Jacopo Maria Pepe

7 August 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

The authors assess alternative options to guarantee energy supply to the EU in view of the Ukraine crisis, including supply from Iran. This would imply, in their opinion, abolishing sanctions against that country.

### **EU-Energiepolitik - Zankapfel oder Integrationsmotor?**

by Sarah Wohlfeld

9 July 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

A short critical appraisal of the handling of energy and climate issues at the June 2014 European Council.

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

### **The outlook for global energy investment**

by Sebastian Moffett  
28 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A report on the presentation at Friends of Europe of the new report by the International Energy Agency on the investments required for global energy supply up to 2035. Based on projected demand and public policy, the IEA's [World Energy Investment Outlook](#) estimates that \$8 trillion (tn) of investment would be needed to achieve greater energy efficiency, on top of \$40.2 tn of investment in energy supply.

### ***Social policy and health***

ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

### **Women on company boards: an example of positive action in Europe**

by Álvaro Castro Oliveira and Michał Gondek  
July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In the last decade there has been a rising pressure in Europe to increase the number of women in the boards of large companies. This paper examines the case law of the Court of Justice on positive action for women in employment. It argues that the Court could accept a European Commission proposal targeting large companies, once adopted, as compatible with the principle of equality. The paper also compares measures favouring women on company boards to other measures in favour of underrepresented groups.

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

### **A framework for sustainable social security systems**

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper addresses social security challenges presented by an aging society. Its aim is to establish a framework that will enhance sustainable social security systems. The framework should be applicable to both developing and developed nations.

### ***Environment***

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH

### **A brighter future: how tackling climate change can deliver better living standards and shared prosperity**

by Will Straw [@wdjstraw](#), Reg Platt [@regplatt](#) and Jack Williams  
24 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The authors maintain that the EU is losing its leadership position on climate change and needs fresh impetus, particularly since China and the US are now taking significant new steps to clean up their economies. The report sets out each of these challenges in greater detail, and offers 17 ideas for how these problems can be addressed.

INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

**Policy mixes addressing natural resources: learning from real world experiences**

by Doreen Fedrigo-Fazio, Leonardo Mazza, Patrick ten Brink [@PtenBrinkIEEP](#) and Emma Watkins  
18 August, 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This research note, published in the context of the FP-7 DYNAMIX project, compares 15 case studies of past and existing policy-mixes and assesses how effective they have been in helping decouple resource use from economic growth.

HEINRICH-BÖLL-STIFTUNG (HEINRICH BÖLL FOUNDATION)

**Dirty deals: how trade talks threaten to undermine EU climate policies and bring tar sands to Europe**

by Fabian Flues  
22 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This briefing argues that corporate lobby groups are using the EU-US trade talks to weaken environmental regulation still in the making, based on the example of the Fuel Quality Directive and the issue of tar sands import to Europe.

## SECTION 5 - EXTERNAL RELATIONS

### *Security and Defence*

ZENTRUM FÜR EUROPÄISCHE INTEGRATIONSFORSCHUNG (CENTER FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION STUDIES)

#### **European Foreign and Security Policy since the Lisbon Treaty - From common to single?**

by Lothar Rühl

2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Since the Lisbon Treaty, all organizational conditions have been created for the systematic use of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP). Military and civil structures, especially the operational headquarters and associated common structures like transport command, have been established. Until now there has been limited activity in crisis resolution, outside of Bosnia and Macedonia, and therefore little has been done in replacement of NATO. It is therefore difficult to assess the development of the common policy on conflict prevention and crisis management.

ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE

#### **Europe's air transport and air-to-air refuelling capability: examining the collaborative imperative**

by Elizabeth Quintana, Henrik Heidenkamp and Michael Codner [@MCodner\\_RUSI](#)

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper examines the European requirements for air transport and air-to-air refuelling (AT/AAR) in the future operating environment. The paper does not attempt to assess the peacetime requirements, but focuses instead on Europe's ability to surge, particularly in terms of AAR during a time of crisis and therefore high demand. While the paper seeks to address the broader European questions, the authors have taken UK examples to examine how the community might evolve in the future. The paper was meant to promote debate ahead of the NATO summit in September and to raise awareness of this enabling capability.

STIFTUNG WISSENSCHAFT UND POLITIK (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS)

#### **NATO's two percent illusion - Germany needs to encourage greater efficiency within the alliance**

by Christian Mölling

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A critical review of the NATO target, set in 2002, to increase defence spending to 2% of gross domestic product (GDP), with a plea to focus on efficiency rather than absolute expenditure.

VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL - INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

#### **Options for increasing Europe's security role on the Korean peninsula**

by Mason Richey and Ohn Daewon

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Mainstream thinking about the role of the EU in East Asia usually rests on non-traditional security threats such as human and environmental security. In contrast, and within the context of the continuing instability on the Korean peninsula, this Policy Brief looks at the potential for EU-Republic of Korea cooperation on hard security matters.

### **Financing European defence: time to call the European Investment Bank?**

by Daniel Fiott [@DanielFiott](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This Policy Brief argues that the European Investment Bank could play a much greater role in Europe's defence sector. As a public-private institution the Bank could serve as a life-line to defence R&D, dual-use projects and support for SMEs, especially where regional clusters are involved.

EGMONT – ROYAL INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

### **Cardiff: birthplace of a new Transatlantic narrative?**

by Jo Coelmont

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Egmont's expectations ahead of the Cardiff summit, potentially a "great meeting", if the focus is on forging a new and attractive narrative to underpin a solid transatlantic security relationship. But Europeans must become serious on defence, finds the author. A call for the EU to be ambitious enough in Cardiff to deal with the real issues, including the relationship between NATO and the CSDP.

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### **NATO: charting the way forward**

by Xenia Wickett [@xeniawickett](#) and Kathleen J. McInnis [@kjmccinnis1](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Chatham House review of 'the NATO we need', with interesting data on, among other things, "national threat perceptions" of Member States.

SECURITY & DEFENCE AGENDA

### **Overhauling transatlantic security thinking**

by Sebastian Moffet

3 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A comprehensive report of the annual Security & Defence Agenda conference co-organised with the Atlantic Council, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and others.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

### **Careful what you wish for: nuclear reductions and conventional deterrence in Europe after Crimea**

by Łukasz Kulesa

4 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This PISM paper calls NATO to caution in changing the relationship between the Alliance's nuclear and conventional dimensions. While some experts propose that the Allies should spend their scarce funds on conventional instruments of deterrence rather than on the US nuclear weapons based in Europe, the author argues that NATO should avoid making radical changes in its nuclear posture. It notes that, even with U.S. nuclear weapons removed from Europe, strengthening conventional deterrence in parallel could result in Russia increasing its reliance on its own nuclear weapons and bringing them closer to NATO territory, further destabilising European security.

### **Deterring Russia after Ukraine: CEE divided on the future of NATO policy**

by Artur Kacprzyk [@ArturKacprzyk](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In the context of the Ukraine crisis, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Romania have called for significant strengthening of NATO's deterrence and defence policy and for permanent deployments of Allied troops in the region. PISM notes that this position is, however, not shared by the rest of the Central and Eastern European NATO members. Similar to Western European countries, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia do not feel as threatened by Russia's actions and do not support moves that could damage their political and economic relations with Moscow. Fundamental differences among the current positions of the regional Allies indicate a profound divide between Central and Eastern European NATO members.

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS) / ИНСТИТУТ МИРОВОЙ ЭКОНОМИКИ И МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫХ ОТНОШЕНИЙ РОССИЙСКОЙ АКАДЕМИИ НАУК (INSTITUTE OF WORLD ECONOMY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF THE RUSSIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE)

### **Options for transparency and confidence-building measures related to non-strategic nuclear weapons in Europe: cost-benefit matrix**

by Jacek Durkalec [@JacekDurkalec](#) and Andrei Zagorski

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report compares TCBM options and shows which ones seem relatively easily acceptable by both NATO and Russia, which ones are so challenging that they would require unprecedented political will, and which seem unrealistic for the foreseeable future. The report is based on conclusions from the workshop "Options for Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures Related to Non-Strategic Nuclear Weapons in Europe: Cost-Benefit Matrix" organized by PISM with the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION SERVICE, EUROPE

### **Securing cyberspace: the need for greater transatlantic cybersecurity cooperation**

by Jared Brow

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper examines the preparedness of the EU and US to address cybersecurity challenges. Despite differences and levels of preparation in their policies, it finds that the EU and US share the same fundamental conviction to protect cyberspace, and that the main challenge will be to protect users without impeding upon their personal freedoms.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM - THE HAGUE

### **Transitioning from military interventions to a long-term counter-terrorism policy**

by Sergei Boeke

6 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)



This ICCT Research Paper looks at exit strategies from a counter-terrorism perspective, focussing on the link between the end of military interventions and the establishment and implementation of a long term counter-terrorism strategy. While the entry strategy of an intervention is preferred to be clearly defined, Boeke argues that the exit strategy requires more flexibility. Using examples from recent military operations, he identifies four types of military exits and their consequences for long-term counter-terrorism policy.

EUROPEAN UNION INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY STUDIES

### **Strategy matters - EU key documents**

29 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EUISS, in fact an EU Agency, offers a selection of the main strategic documents in the area of security released by the EU over the past few years, including (in the annex) a survey of other relevant EU sectorial strategies.

### ***Geopolitics and strategy***

TERRA NOVA

### **Quelle place pour l'Union européenne à l'est ? Eléments de prospective sur le Partenariat oriental**

by Florent Parmentier [@FlorentParmenti](#)

8 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

An analysis by Florent Parmentier on the state and perspectives of the Eastern Partnership based on the analysis of the countries involved and the European interests towards them.

COLLEGE OF EUROPE / UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE ON COMPARATIVE REGIONAL INTEGRATION STUDIES

### **L'Union européenne face aux BRICS dans la gouvernance mondiale : une réponse efficace ?**

by Balazs Ujvari [@balazs\\_iravju](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

A paper reviewing the EU reaction to the rise of BRICS in international politics, concluding that the only area in which the reaction has been effective is climate change.

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT

### **ECDPM Annual Report 2013 - Reconciling values and interests in the external action of the EU**

7 July 2014

Link to the miniguide edition in [English](#) and to the [online edition](#)

A convenient collection of the main outputs of this 'think-and-do thank' 2013, organised around [four thematic priorities](#) and five programmes: [Strengthening European External Action](#); [Conflict, Security and Resilience](#); [Economic Transformation and Trade](#); [Africa's Change Dynamics](#); [Food Security](#).

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR BLACK SEA STUDIES

### **The Black Sea region in the media**

by Mariana Semenyshyn [@SemenyshynM](#)

30 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report looks at the media coverage of the Black Sea region in newspapers in Russia, Turkey and Ukraine, as well as at the Black Sea representation in social media. It concludes that newspapers in the region present Black Sea issues through the prism of bilateral relations and national interest, especially in the area of energy. Social media are seen as a platform more open to a perspective focusing on regional cooperation.

### ***The United Nations***

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

### **Brussels meets Westphalia: the European Union and the United Nations**

by Jan Wouters and Anna-Louise Chané

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper seeks to provide an overview of the legal basis for EU participation at the UN and the various forms that this participation can take. It addresses issues of EU internal coordination and external representation at the UN, takes a closer look at the practical EU-UN cooperation on the ground and highlights challenges and opportunities. While the Lisbon reform of the EU external relations architecture has led to noticeable improvements in terms of continuity and effectiveness, considerable challenges still remain.

### ***Countries preparing to join the EU***

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΊΔΡΥΜΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΞΩΤΕΡΙΚΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΚΗΣ (HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY)

### **The Western Balkan EU accession process and the Greek Presidency 2014**

by Pavlos Koktsidis, Ioannis Armakolas, Maja Maksimovic [@MagiaMaxi](#) and Bledar Feta

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report of ELIAMEP's South-East Europe Programme outlines the state of play in the EU accession process of the Western Balkan states and the Greek Presidency's initiatives and activities for the region. The report finds that, despite low expectations due to the Greek economic drama and enlargement fatigue, the fifth Greek EU Presidency engaged in efforts to live up to Greece's traditionally active role in the Balkans.

INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP

### **Bosnia's future**

10 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

While the physical scars of the 1992-1995 Bosnia war have healed, political agony and ethnic tension persist. Real peace requires a new constitution and bottom-up political change, finds the ICG.

## EUROPEAN STABILITY INITIATIVE

### **Vladimir and Estragon in Skopje. A fictional conversation on trust and standards and a plea on how to break a vicious circle**

17 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A critical review of issues in EU-Macedonian relations in 2014 and an outlook on the future of European enlargement policy, in the format of a fictional dialogue inspired by Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*.

NEDERLANDS INSTITUUT VOOR INTERNATIONALE BETREKKINGEN - CLINGENDAEL  
(NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)

### **North Kosovo in 2020: future histories in the making**

by Regina Joseph and Jitske Hoogenboom

23 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Despite the signing of the Brussels Agreement in 2013, many people in north Kosovo continue to reject integration with Kosovo. Kosovo remains divided, both physically and psychologically, note the authors, and is beset by internal structural problems and external challenges. The EU-led dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia is perceived among different communities in Kosovo as imposing half-baked and impractical solutions behind closed doors.

## EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **Turkey's illiberal turn**

by Dimitar Bechev [@dimobe](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Turkey is sliding back on its democratisation path, finds ECFR. During the conservative Justice and Development Party's third term in power, majoritarianism has triumphed over a drive to broaden pluralism and entrench the rule of law. The concentration of power in the hands of Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, the prevalence of the executive over the judicial branch, flawed media, and unbaiting polarisation in political life are all symptoms of democratic deadlock. Having turned its back on Turkey, the EU has seen its leverage plummet; Turkey itself has become selective when it comes to membership-oriented reforms. This brief argues that the EU needs to focus on pragmatic co-operation and open key chapters in the accession talks while making sure its policies and actions do not feed into the narratives of external threat that have gained prominence in Turkish politics.

### ***Transatlantic relations***

## ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

### **So close, but yet so far: European and American democracy promotion**

by Nelli Babayan [@NelliBabayan](#) and Thomas Risse

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper addresses EU and US democracy promotion from the perspective of transatlantic security communities and argues that joint transatlantic democracy promotion is still embryonic. However, at the same time there are clear indications of converging identities and interests with regard to strategies and instruments of democracy promotion, which could result in meaningful transatlantic partnership in challenging situations.

### **TTIP and the renaissance of transatlanticism: regulatory power in the age of rising regions**

by Peter van Ham [@Peter\\_vanHam](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This report examines the "renaissance of transatlanticism" through the prism of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. The report argues that the combined regulatory power of the US and the EU will offer the transatlantic West a window of opportunity to defend economic interests and political values in an increasingly plurilateral global order.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

### **Global opposition to U.S. surveillance and drones, but limited harm to America's image**

by Richard Wike [@RichardWike](#), Bruce Stokes [@bruceestokes](#) and Jacob Poushter [@japoushter](#)

14 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This new Pew Research Center survey finds widespread global opposition to US eavesdropping and a decline in the view that the US respects the personal freedoms of its people. But in most countries there is little evidence this opposition has severely harmed America's overall image.

### ***Eastern Partnership***

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

### **Choosing our geography: 12 points to restore meaning to the Eastern Partnership**

by Elżbieta Kaca, Roderick Parkes [@RoderickParkes](#) and Anita Sobják [@AnitaSobjak](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A 12-point plan for the Eastern Partnership, focusing on a more nuanced policy towards Russia, stronger regional ties between Eastern partners, tailored EU conditionalities and an integration approach better suited to EaP countries, as well as improving EU political capacities in the region.

GERMAN MARSHALL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES

### **Regional repercussions of the Ukraine crisis: challenges for the six Eastern Partnership countries**

by Alina Inayah [@ainayah](#), Daniela Schwarzer [@D\\_Schwarzer](#) and Joerg Forbrig [@JoergForbrig](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In this paper, six experts from the region examine the consequences of the Ukraine crisis for each of the Eastern Partnership countries. It argues that EU and US must focus their attention not only on Ukraine, but also on the other countries in the region, in order to reduce the implications of the current crisis and to develop a long-term regional approach that fosters security, stability, and democracy.

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **Protecting the European choice**

by Andrew Wilson

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The editor of the series of case studies on Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia and Moldova, ECFR senior policy fellow Andrew Wilson, argues that EU policy towards the Eastern Partnership is "proceeding on auto pilot" and that it needs to do "more than simply protect the status quo if it is serious about maintaining the Eastern Partnership". Wilson warns that the EU will "have to be committed to spending a lot of blood and treasure to protect countries at the sharp end of Russian pressure." All four case studies show that Russian pressure, for all its strength and breadth, is often self-defeating and they recommend three elements which the EU should adopt in its new strategy towards Russia and the periphery.

RAHVUSVAHELINE KAITSEURINGUTE KESKUS (INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DEFENCE STUDIES)

### **The Eastern Partnership: challenges and opportunities for European integration**

by Anna Bulakh [@Bulakh\\_Anna](#) and Alex Verschoor-Kirss

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The goal of this analysis is to depict both the potential for the EaP initiative to successfully promote integration of the partner countries with the EU, while also acknowledging the major weaknesses within partner countries and the challenges they pose to closer integration. The authors analyse the security threat posed by Russia to the EaP initiative and note that the notion of nostalgia for the Cold War and even the comfort of Soviet-style programs is a real phenomenon in Eastern Europe.

### ***Africa***

EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

### **Algeria - an unsteady partner for Europe**

by Mansouria Mokhefi

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A sobering view of Algeria's potential as a factor of stability in the region. With Abdelaziz Bouteflika's re-election, Algeria has entered another phase of the endless transition that started in the 1990s. The authors fear that once again, this transition, which will be carefully controlled by the regime, will aim at securing the status quo. However, several key developments are coalescing to pose a serious challenge to the country's immediate future. In addition to growing social unrest and economic hardship, domestic terrorism, increasing ethnic conflict, and growing regional insecurity also threaten Algeria's much-hailed stability. Among the many uncertainties that surround the country is whether Algeria can become the energy partner substitute that Europe may need in the aftermath of the Ukraine crisis. Given that Algeria's dramatic rise in domestic energy consumption and simultaneous decline in gas production will soon substantially reduce the country's exports, however, EU member states should not assume that Algeria could fulfil that role.

### **The EU and South Africa: towards a new partnership for development**

by Lesley Masters [@LesleyIGD](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The EU-South Africa strategic partnership reflects a shift away from their traditional donor-recipient relationship. As South Africa emerges as a donor in its own right, there is potential for greater EU-South Africa collaboration to promote development in Africa and at global level. South Africa and the EU share a common focus on Africa's development and security, as well on poverty reduction and normative issues of human rights and governance. Such convergence offers potential for trilateral development cooperation, which has yet to be explored. However, South Africa's concerns about the impact of broader EU policies on African development and about EU commitments to shift aid away from middle income countries could be barriers to deeper engagement.

**Asia**

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN REFORM

### **A presence farther east: can Europe play a strategic role in the Asia-Pacific region?**

by Rem Korteweg [@CER\\_Korteweg](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Korteweg argues that Europe must play a greater role to promote East Asian security. Its economic interests, the relevance of the transatlantic relationship and ties with Asian partners are in jeopardy.

FRIENDS OF EUROPE

### **ASEM: why Asia Europe relations matter in the 21st century**

by Shada Islam [@shada\\_islam](#) and Patricia Diaz [@PatriciaDiazMdm](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This policy briefing explores the relevance of ASEM in the volatile global order and efforts under way to revive ASEM through new formats, a sharper focus on content and engagement with civil society and the media. It makes policy recommendations for energising the Asia-Europe partnership and ensuring it gains more traction in the months leading up to ASEM's 20th anniversary in 2016.

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES

### **EU ship recycling regulation: what's in it for South Asia?**

by Silvia Pastorelli

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A paper on shipbreaking in South Asia and its characteristics and to analyse the latest European Regulation on ship recycling, contextualising it in the international legal framework.

## **Brazil**

LEUVEN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE STUDIES

### **The European Union and Brazil in the quest for the global diffusion of human rights: prospects for a strategic partnership**

by Carolina Pavese, Jan Wouters and Katrien Meuwissen

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This compares the approaches of the EU and Brazil regarding human rights and concludes that a strategic human rights partnership between the EU and Brazil has not yet emerged. While such partnership holds important potential, significant mutual accommodation to the divergent interests of both partners is needed in order for this cooperation to materialise in practice, find the authors.

## **Iran**

HANNS-SEIDEL-STIFTUNG (HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION)

### **Impulse aus dem anderen Iran - Die systemkritische iranische Reformtheologie und der christlich-islamische Dialog in Europa**

by Peter L. Muench-Heubner

2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

A review of Iran's reform theology, its questioning of the regime and its domestic and regional impact, as well as a plea for Western Christian Democracy to engage with it.

## **Middle East**

CHATHAM HOUSE - THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### **All in the timing: the weapons of mass destruction free zone in the Middle East**

by Patricia Lewis

5 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Helsinki Conference process established by the 2010 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference is the most significant opportunity to increase stability and prevent nuclear catastrophe in the Middle East. If states fail to take this opportunity, the consequences will be severe, argues Lewis, noting that an agreement between Israel and Egypt would make all the difference.

## **Moldova**

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

### **Moldova national integrity system assessment 2014**

by Maria Ciubotaru, Nadine Gogu, Mariana Kalughin, Ianina Spinei and Cristina Țărnă; Lilia Carașciuc (coord.)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The National Integrity System assessment has discovered a high vulnerability to corruption in Moldova, and it has also discovered that corruption in the country is systematic in nature. Moldova has an institutional infrastructure based on a high legal framework for fighting corruption. The main institutions in the field include: the National Anti-Corruption Centre, National Integrity Commission, Anti-Corruption Prosecution, Court of Accounts, and Information and Security Centre. The main document which regulates the actions in the field is the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

CENTRUL ROMÂN DE POLITICI EUROPENE (ROMANIAN CENTER FOR EUROPEAN POLICIES) / EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

### **Speeding up Moldova's EU integration process through progress in the field of anticorruption – lessons learned from Croatia**

by Visnja Samardzija and Hrvoje Butkovic

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This study makes a critical assessment of the progress and the challenges which Moldova is facing in terms of combating corruption, taking into consideration the experiences of Croatia during the EU accession process in this particular area. Croatia's integration experience in areas such as institution building, the anti-corruption legal framework, independence of the judiciary or financing political areas is considered as being very relevant for Republic of Moldova, as it took place in a period in which corruption was intensively tackled through strengthened EU conditionality.

EXPERT-GRUP

### **Why do we need trade liberalization with the EU?**

by Adrian Lupușor [@AdrianLupusor](#)

22 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#), in [Romanian](#) and in [Russian](#)

This paper analyses how Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area provisions with the EU will contribute to unlocking Moldova's exports and it claims to dismantle four myths related to this subject.

EUROPEAN POLICY CENTRE

### **It has only just begun: EU and anti-corruption institutions in Moldova**

by Ludmila Gamurari and Cristian Ghinea

1 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Moldova recently signed the Association Agreement with the EU, followed by a detailed Association Agenda, which comes with concrete steps and conditionalities. The paper discusses the most recent evolutions of the anti-corruption institutions in Moldova, which owe a lot to EU's influence. It concludes with recommendations for the EU to continue to pay attention to corruption in Moldova, but address it in a more coherent manner.

### ***Russia***

POLSKI INSTYTUT SPRAW MIĘDZYNARODOWYCH (POLISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS)

### **Russia's hidden underbelly of debt**

by Maya Rostowska

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)



Despite the reigning consensus that the Russian economy is facing trouble ahead, some indicators suggest that the situation is not as dire as first appeared, finds Rostowska. Moreover, it may seem that the fiscal situation in the country - particularly its copious foreign currency reserves and substantial sovereign wealth funds - could still help extricate Russia from its economic difficulties. However, the very difficult budgetary situation in the regions and the staggering levels of debt of its companies suggest that economic problems could hit the country hard.

ISTITUTO AFFARI INTERNAZIONALI

### **Dances with the bear: Turkey and Russia after Crimea**

by Adam Balcer

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The Turkish-Russian relationship is a complex set of economic, identity and geopolitical factors, and the recent increase in bilateral contacts has substantially decreased the possibility of open confrontation between Ankara and Moscow. However, this relationship cannot be called a strategic partnership, at least not in its present form, notes ISPI. Certainly, a furthering of Turkey's authoritarian slide could result in a rapprochement between a Turkey drifting away from the West and Russia. However, the continuation of Russia's aggressive policy in the post-Soviet space can at the same time alienate Turkey.

STIFTUNG WISSENSCHAFT UND POLITIK (GERMAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS)

### **Russland als euro-pazifische Macht. Ziele, Strategien und Perspektiven russischer Ostasienpolitik**

by Margarete Klein

July 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

Klein reviews the Russian attempts since the mid-2000s to strengthen its position in East Asia, based on a double strategy which combines a strategic partnership with China with an attempt to diversify its interests in the region. Obstacles to this are the asymmetric power relation with China, where Moscow could end up as a junior partner, and Russia's almost sole asset as a supplier of natural resources.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

### **Russia's global image negative amid Crisis in Ukraine**

by Katie Simmons, James Bell [@james\\_e\\_bell](#) and Russ Oates [@russoates](#)

9 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

As the EU considers further sanctions on Russia for its role in the standoff in Ukraine, Russia is broadly unpopular in many countries around the globe and increasingly disliked in Europe and the US. President Vladimir Putin's leadership also continues to inspire little confidence worldwide, according to a new Pew Research Center survey.

RYTU EUROPOS STUDIJŲ CENTRAS (EASTERN EUROPE STUDIES CENTRE)

### **Aggression in Ukraine: what consequences await its architects?**

by Marius Laurinavičius

26 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#), in [Lithuanian](#) and in [Russian](#)

A short article in a series on domestic political dynamics behind Russia's attitude towards Ukraine.

## **Singapore**

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE) / EU-ASIA CENTRE

### **How to boost Spain's business presence in Singapore: opportunities in the wake of the Free Trade Agreement with the EU**

by María García and Clara Portela

14 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Spanish](#)

Elcano finds that the recently signed Free Trade Agreement between the EU and Singapore opens up new business opportunities for Spanish companies on the island, which is already Spain's top trading partner in South-East Asia. One highlight of the accord is the elimination of restrictions on the percentage of foreign investment in financial services and sectors such as telecommunications, engineering and shipping. At the same time, the possibility of being able to bid on more government contracts can help companies involved in environmental protection and construction firms. The food industry will benefit from the novel creation of a registry of geographical indications.

## **Ukraine**

FUNDACIÓN PARA LAS RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES Y EL DIÁLOGO EXTERIOR  
(FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND FOREIGN DIALOGUE)

### **The politics of regionalism and decentralisation in Ukraine**

by Natalia Shapovalova

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The current Ukrainian government holds that transferring more power from the centre to the periphery will be an essential ingredient to addressing anti-Kyiv sentiments in Donbas and dampen future calls for regional autonomy and secession. This policy brief argues that decentralisation will not halt the separatist insurgency in Donbas, but if implemented it should help to strengthen democracy in Ukraine.

### **Civic awakening: the impact of Euromaidan on Ukraine's politics and society**

by Olesia Ogryzko and Kateryna Pishchikova [@KPishchikova](#)

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

The MH17 air-crash disaster of July 17 is likely to have a severe impact on the development of the Donbas conflict in Ukraine as well as on EU-Russia relations. Written before the tragedy, this working paper argues that the 'Euromaidan' protests, that occurred between December 2013 and February 2014, have provoked two fundamental changes that give grounds for cautious optimism about Ukraine's incipient transition to democracy. First, after more than two decades of civic apathy and low impact, Ukrainian civil society seems to be on the rise. Second, state-society relations are being reconfigured, with citizens demanding greater oversight of and accountability from state institutions, and civic activists pushing for a greater role in policy-making. These new societal and political trends should be further supported by the EU.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES

### **Ukraine, Russia and the need for more flexibility in EU foreign policy-making**

by Steven Blockmans

25 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

After the illegal annexation of Crimea and Russia's indirect responsibility for the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 in eastern Ukraine, what will it take before the EU can effectively confront a conflict on its borders and prove to both its own citizens and third countries that it has a meaningful role to play in foreign policy? With numerous competing national interests and some member states unwilling to pay different prices for collective action, any sector-wide EU sanctions are likely to lack serious bite. In an effort to paper over the cracks, Steven Blockmans makes a number of recommendations for policy-makers.

FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION)

### **In search of sustainability: civil society in Ukraine**

by Mridula Ghosh

July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

In terms of number and variety of organizations, as well as levels and range of activities, civil society and free media in Ukraine are the richest in the former Soviet Union, despite difficult institutional conditions and irregular funding. The strength of civil society in Ukraine has been tested by time, finds FES. Now, after the EuroMaidan experience it is well placed to face the post-crisis development challenges; namely more transparency, overcoming social and political polarization and establishing a human rights-based approach to heal the broken social fabric. This will be successful only if, in parallel, genuine reform of the law enforcement and the judicial system is undertaken.

PETERSON INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

### **Debt sanctions can help Ukraine and fill a gap in the international financial system**

by Anna Gelpern [@AGelpern](#)

August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

Gelpern argues that a single measure can free up \$3 billion for Ukraine and send a powerful message to Russia: the United Kingdom can refuse to enforce English-law contracts for the money Russia lent to former Ukrainian President Yanukovich late last year. Ukraine could then walk away from this debt without the usual legal and market consequences of repudiation. Such debt sanctions would reinforce the financial, energy, and trade sanctions under way, and by themselves would represent an appropriately targeted response to the conflict. The article finds that this would be in line with international law and legislative precedent in the United Kingdom and Europe, most recently used for Iraq.

ЦЕНТР РАЗУМКОБА (RAZUMKOV CENTER)

### **Geopolitical analysis of the balance of forces and its changes against the background of the Russo-Ukrainian conflict**

by Mykola Sungurovskyi

21 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

A leading Ukrainian think tank with a paper on the Russo-Ukrainian conflict seen as a manifestation of the imbalance of forces on the international scene and in the region.

CONSEJO ARGENTINO PARA LAS RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES

### **La crisis ucraniana y el papel de Rusia, Unión Europea y Estados Unidos**

by Marcelo Montes

August 2014

Link to the article in [Spanish](#)

A view from Argentina on Ukrainian statehood and the Ukraine crisis as the possible lead to a new Cold War.

## REGARDS CROISÉS

### *France, seen from Germany*

HANNS-SEIDEL-STIFTUNG (HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION)

#### **Frankreichs Grandeur - einst und jetzt**

by Bernd Rill (ed.)

June 2014

Link to the article in [German](#)

How do you define, describe, and measure the 'grandeur' of a state? This paper gives a perspective from Germany on French *grandeur* in its various dimensions, from political to military, economical to cultural, and what traces of these can still be found today.

### *Germany and France, seen from Spain*

REAL INSTITUTO ELCANO (ELCANO ROYAL INSTITUTE)

#### **Germany and political union in Europe: nothing without France**

by Miguel Otero-Iglesias [@miotei](#)

4 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper examines why, after decades of proposing the creation of a political union to make EMU sustainable, Germany has not used the window of opportunity offered by the eurozone crisis to pursue this goal more vigorously. The author surmises Germany remains a reluctant hegemon and once it has seen that France is still not ready for political union it has refrained from actively promoting this ideal. In his view, the zeal with which the German political elites have pushed through the *Spitzenkandidaten* approach in the 2014 European elections confirms that Berlin is still determined to build a more federal Europe.

### *Germany, seen from France*

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS DES RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES

#### **La dimension parlementaire de la politique de défense allemande**

by Michel Drain

August 2014

Link to the article in [French](#)

An analysis of the Bundestag's greater role in matters of defence, compared to the French parliament. The German Constitutional Court has interpreted the Basic Law in a broad way; it defines the Bundeswehr as the "Parliament's army" and lays down that the parliament must approve any deployment of German military forces abroad. The mechanism of coalitions and the power of political parties mean that it is subject to narrow and diversified political control. Meanwhile, Germany still needs to deepen its debate on strategic matters, the author says. Parliamentary work can contribute decisively to this debate.

## ***Germany again, this time seen from Ireland***

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

### **Germany's place in the world**

by Pádraig Murphy

1 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

This paper assesses the question that has confronted German governments since the Second World War: how to manage Germany's place in the world? The author traces the response to Germany's foreign policy dilemma from the foundation of the Federal Republic to the current crisis in Ukraine. "Germany in 2014 finds itself in a position that has historically been hers: one that is geopolitically crucial," he says.

## ***Hungary, seen from Poland***

OŚRODEK STUDIÓW WSCHODNICH (CENTRE FOR EASTERN STUDIES)

### **Orban's anti-liberal manifesto**

by Andrzej Sadecki

6 August 2014

Link to the article in [English](#) and in [Polish](#)

In July, Hungary's PM Viktor Orbán gave a speech in which he declared that Hungary would move away from the system of liberal democracy which he believes to constitute an obstacle to economic success. This paper sees the speech as a further shift for Hungary away from EU democratic standards, raising further tensions in the country's relations with the West. Particularly poignant is the reception in Romania, where the remarks about building the 'nation's unity' beyond the existing state borders are causing for alarm.

## ***The Netherlands, seen from Germany***

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

### **A People's Party reinvented? The Dutch Christian Democrats**

by Olaf Wientzek

25 July 2014

Link to the article in [English](#)

After the Dutch Christian Democrats (CDA) suffered setbacks in past elections by agreeing to political compromises with right-wing populist parties, they avoided a further loss of votes in the European elections in May. By re-orientation and a return to their political roots the Christian Democrats make a change of policy. The author draws lessons for other Christian democratic parties facing similar challenges: a declining appeal in the large cities, an aging membership, lack of a clear programmatic profile, and a reputation to be a perpetual government and administration party.